Face Equality Training National Report of Romania

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Introduction

This report provides an analysis of Romania, covering a range of essential topics. It explores the country's geography, delves into population demographics, and examines average income levels. The report includes an in-depth look at Sweden's socioeconomic profile, focusing on aspects such as disposable income and poverty thresholds. Additionally, it assesses the unemployment rate and education levels across the nation. A significant portion of the analysis is dedicated to the health sector.

In the second section there can be found the Face Equality Training findings of the semi-structured interviews applied among the project target groups.

Geography

> Total area: 238,397 sq km
> Romania is the twelfth-largest country in Europe. Romania represents 4.8% of Europe's and 5.4% of the European Union's surface. Romania is the 83rd biggest in the world.
> Romania is comparatively low at an average elevation of 414 meters above sea level. The highest mountain peak (Moldoveanu) is at 2,544 meters. The country has about 50 islands. It has a maritime border of 245 km long to the Black Sea.
> **Neighbors:** Bulgaria, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Ukraine and Hungary.
> Bucharest is the **country's capital** and most populous city, as well as its administrative and economic center. The city is situated on the Dâmbovița River, around 60 kilometers

north of the Danube River and the Bulgarian border, and has a population of 2,412,530 residents in its urban area.

➢ The city of Iași is regarded as the **cultural capital** of Romania, and has a population of 362,142, making it the second-largest city in the country. Iași is also an important educational center, and it is home to the oldest university in Romania.

➢ Other important cities in Romania are:

-Cluj-Napoca - 316,748 inhabitants

-Timisoara - 315,053 inhabitants

-Craiova - 304,142 inhabitants

-Constanta - 303,399 inhabitants

-Galati - 294,087 inhabitants

-Brasov -276,088 inhabitants

➢ The **official language** of Romania is Romanian, a Romance language with strong similarities to Italian. Romania also has quite a few minority languages, including Hungarian and Romani. There's also a large Romanian diaspora, meaning that a lot of Romanian people live abroad.

➢ Romania has a temperate continental **climate**. Summers are generally warm with temperatures between 20 and 30°C, while winters are cold with temperatures around freezing. In the high mountains of the Carpathians it is much cooler at -15°C and there is considerably more precipitation. The northeastern Moldavia is dominated by the cool dry weather of Ukraine. In contrast, the southern areas incl. the Black Sea region are milder and warmer.

Population

19 051 562 (2023), among which 9,8 women (51.5%)

Romania is the sixth-most populous member state of the European Union.

Population density: 79.90 km²:

Urban population: **52.5 %** of the population of Romania (10,448,074 people).

Life expectancy males: 69.4 years

Life expectancy females: 76.7 years

Birth rate: 9.3 ‰

Death rate: 17.5 ‰,

Males/Females: 48.4% : 51.6%

Slightly more than 10% of the population of Romania is formed of **minorities** in Romania. The principal minorities are Hungarians and Roma, although other smaller ethnic groups exist too. Ukrainians of Romania are the third-largest minority.

The current net **migration** rate for Romania in 2024 is -0.718 per 1000 population, a 9% decline from 2023. After 1999 significant Romanian population migrated toward the European Union. A large part of Romanian emigrants went to Spain or Italy, whose national languages are Romance languages like Romanian. They were followed by another wave beginning in 2002, when Romanian citizens obtained the right to move to any Schengen Zone country without a visa. In 2007 Romania joined the European Union, further increasing the economic and political ties between the countries. In 2023, there were 1,081,836 Romanian citizens living in Italy, the largest Romanian immigrant population in any country as well as the largest immigrant group within Italy. The vast majority of Romanian emigrants are based in just ten countries, with the most common countries being Italy, Germany, Spain, United Kingdom, United States, Hungary, France and Canada. In 2006, the Romanian diaspora was estimated at about 8 million people

Socioeconomic Profile

➤ Romania total incoe- monthly per household, 6464.12 lei – approximately 1314 euros.

➤ Romania's GDP per capita of €26 800 ranks below the EU average (€35 500). It accounts for 1.6% of the EU's total GDP.

➤ At Risk of Poverty rate was 21.20% in December of 2022, according to the EUROSTAT.

Following a strong 5% growth in the first three quarters of 2022, the Romanian economy decelerated sharply, advancing by a meagre 1.4% during the same period in 2023. High inflation has been eroding households' purchasing power, eventually slowing down private consumption, which has been the main engine of growth in recent years. However, consumption is still expected to remain an important contributor to economic growth going

forward, picking up gradually in 2024 and 2025, driven by double-digit increases in wages and pensions.

Investment growth has been strong in 2023 and is expected to remain so over the next couple of years. Romania stands to benefit from a vast amount of financing via the EU's Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF), amounting to a cumulative 12% of GDP by 2026. Over the coming years, EU-funded investment projects are expected to lead to an increase in the public sector investment's share in GDP.

Foreign direct investment (FDI) into Romania reached a record EUR 10.7 billion in 2022. It rose by over 12% year-on-year, bucking the international trend, which saw a contraction. Industry, trade and financial intermediation sectors were the main recipients of FDI. However, FDI is expected to drop by a third in 2023 overall, as the slowdown in domestic economic activity dampens private sector's investment appetite.

Inflation continued to fall in 2023, albeit from a relatively elevated level. At 8.3%, Romania registered the third-highest annual inflation rate in the EU in October 2023.

Unemployment Rate
- The Unemployment Rate in Romania is 5.6% for 2022, the same as in the previous year.
- By sex, the gap between the two unemployment rates was 1.0 percentage point (6.0% for men as against 5.0% for women), while by residential area it was 5.7 percentage points (8.9% for rural area, as against 3.2% for urban area).
- The unemployment rate reached the highest level (22.8%) among young persons (15-24 years).

Education Levels

Total number of pupils and students at all educational levels was 3.473.000 (2022-2023).
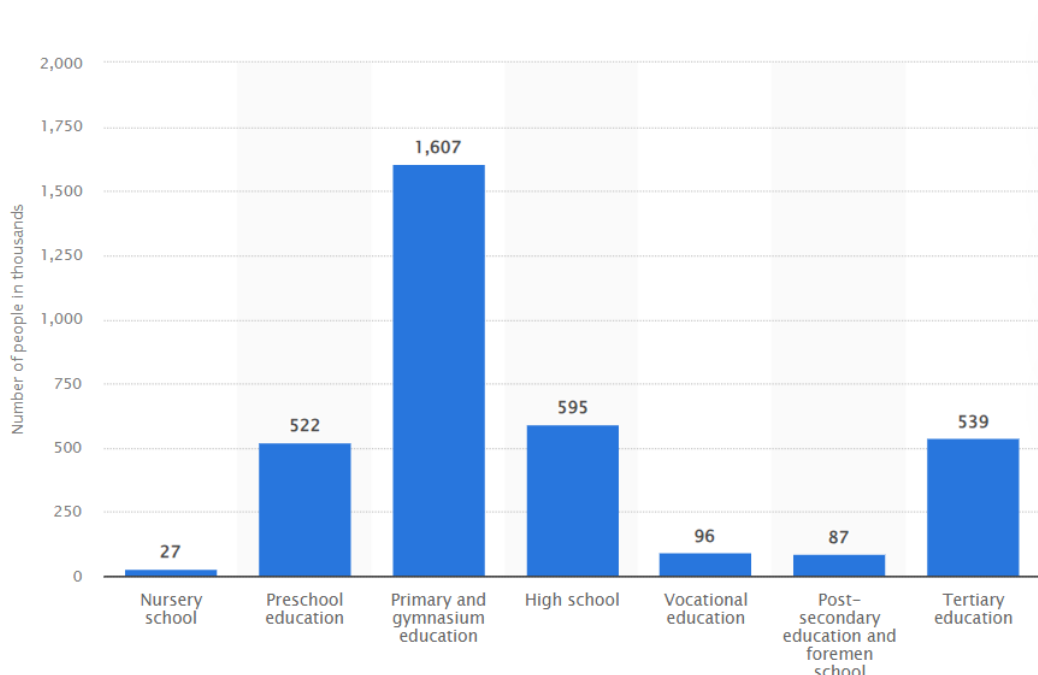
School population in Romania in the school year 2022/2023, by level of education*(in 1,000s)*
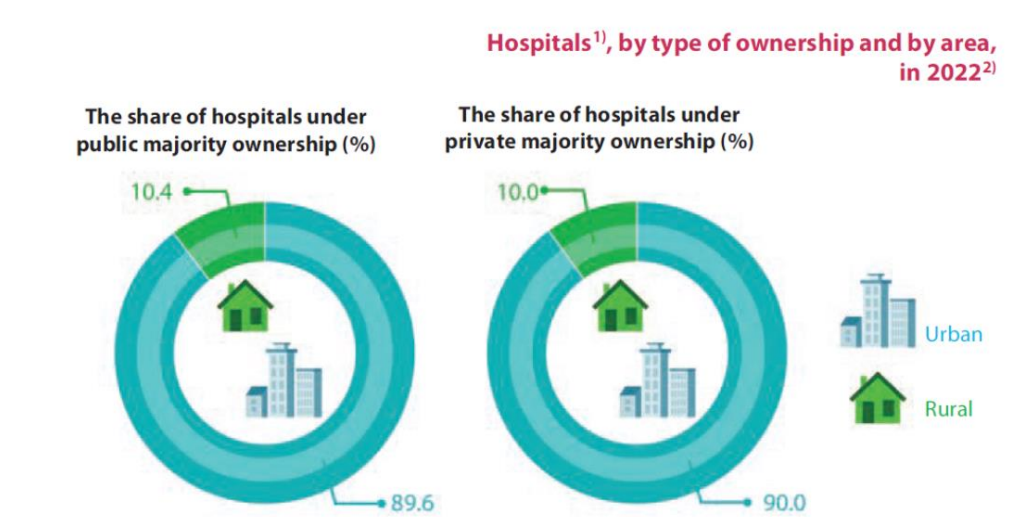
Source: statista.com

- Enrolment rate for the school age population: 71.03%, male 68.83%, female 73.33%
- In Romania, 47% of 25-34 year olds have a VET qualification as their highest level of attainment: 44% at upper secondary level and 3% and post-secondary non-tertiary level. On average across OECD countries, 20% of 25-34 year-olds attainment vocational upper secondary, 6% attained vocational post-secondary non-tertiary education.
- In 2023 in Romania, the budget for education was 49.51 billion Romanian lei or 3.2 % of the country's GDP, in 2022 it was 3.12 %.
- By 2022-2023 the number of students enrolled in tertiary education was 539 thousand, 63 thousand being in the private sector.
- Enrollment rate in higher education: 55% in 2022 according to World Bank.
- In Romania, the share of 25-64 year-olds who participated in non-formal job-related education and training over a four-week reference period is 4% among those with vocational upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary attainment, similar to their peers with a general qualification, and lower than the number of with tertiary attainment (9%).

Health

- In 2022, the network of health facilities included a number of 544 hospitals, among which 162 private ones.

- Units assimilated to hospitals that offer only day care services: 162 units in 2022.

- At the end of 2022, 135837 beds were available for inpatients for continuous hospitalization, also 3452 beds in medico-social units, and the same number of beds in balneary sanatoria.

- Outpatient medical units: 13740 units, independent dental offices: 16341 units

- In 2022, a number of 9885 pharmacies, pharmaceutical points and drug stores provided services to the population.

Public & Private Hospitals

Hospitals[1], by type of ownership and by area, in 2022[2]

The share of hospitals under public majority ownership (%): 10.4, 89.6

The share of hospitals under private majority ownership (%): 10.0, 90.0

Urban, Rural

Source: National Institute of Statistics, https://insse.ro/cms/ro/tags/romania-cifre

Health Professionals

Number of medical staff

persons

	2022[1]
Physicians[2]	71279
Population per physician	267
Physicians per 10000 inhabitants	37.4
Dentists	21430
Population per dentist	889
Dentists per 10000 inhabitants	11.3
Pharmaceutical	22660
Population per pharmaceutical	840
Pharmaceutical per 10000 inhabitants	11.9
Nurses with tertiary education	18910
Population per nurses with tertiary education	1007
Nurses with tertiary education per 10000 inhabitants	9.9
Medical staff[3]	156651
Population per medical staff [3]	122
Medical staff[3] per 10000 inhabitants	82.3
Medical staff[3] per physician	2.2

Source: National Institute of Statistics, https://insse.ro/cms/ro/tags/romania-cifre

Health Literacy

When comparing the status of eHealth skills of Romanians to the Europe average, statistics show that 40,04% of Romanian people that is using the internet to seek health information, compared to 55, 27% of EU individuals.

This gap is visible for all age groups.

Gender is a significant determinant, as females are using internet more to search for health information (49%) as compared to males (31%).

Education also plays a key role, as only 17% of low educated individuals are using the internet to seek health information as compared to 41% of individuals with medium education and 66.5% of individuals with high education, according to Eurostat.
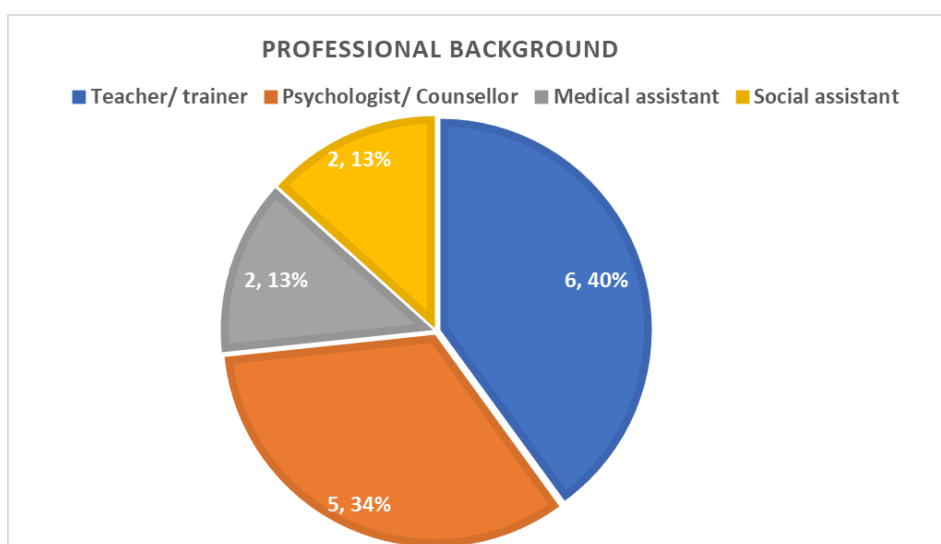
Section 2

Face Equality Training National Report of Romania - Survey findings

Data collection method: semi-structured interviews
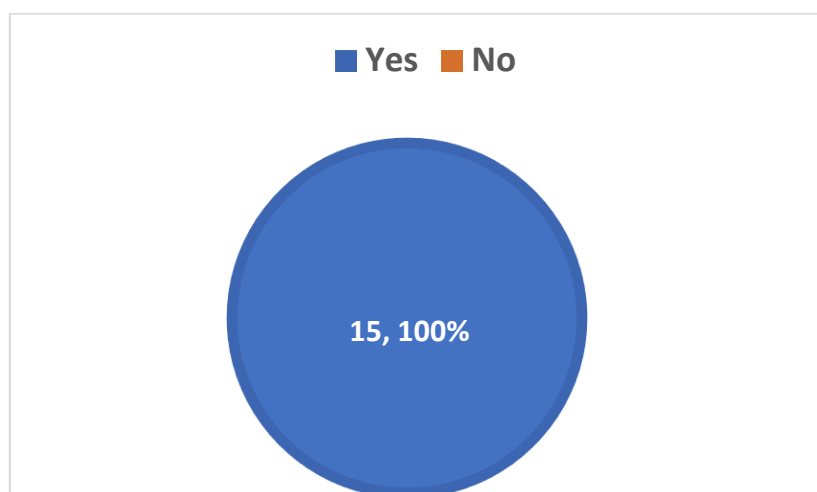
Number of participants: 15 individuals

Sample: trainers and teachers, psychologists/ counsellors, medical assistants, social assistants.
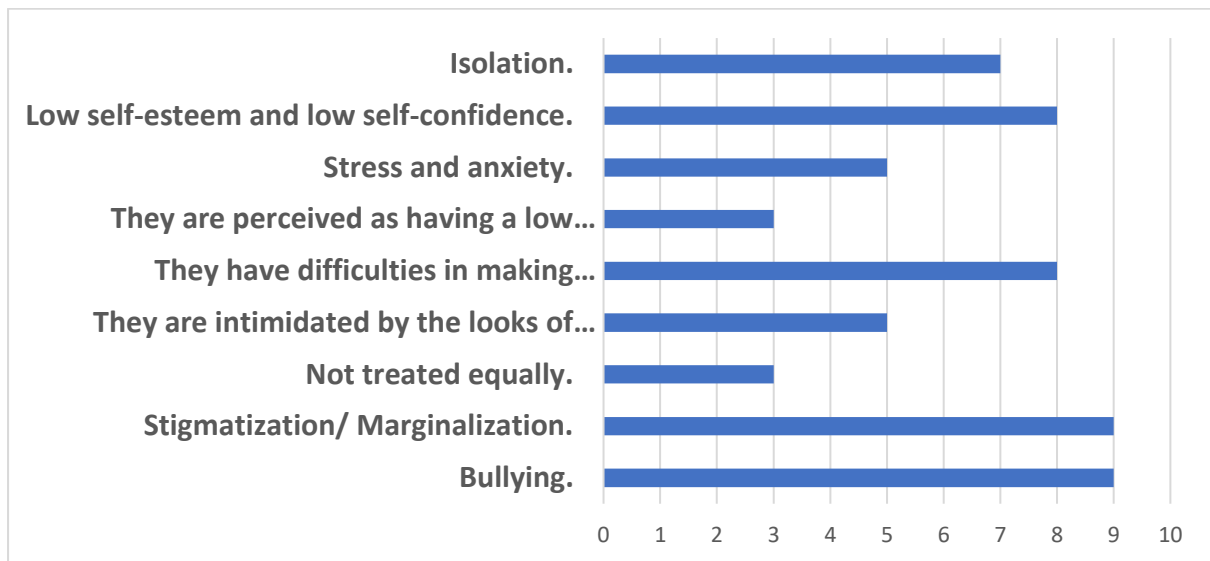
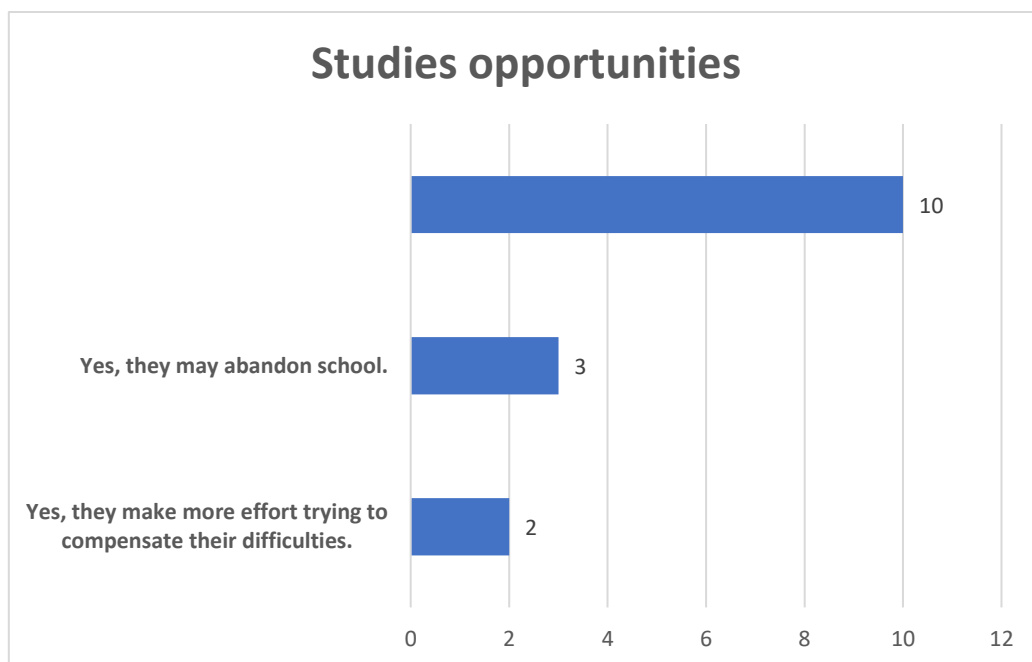**Q1 What is your professional background?**

Q2 Do you think individuals with disfigurements are disadvantaged in our society?

Q3 If so, please describe how.

Category	Value
Isolation.	7
Low self-esteem and low self-confidence.	8
Stress and anxiety.	5
They are perceived as having a low…	3
They have difficulties in making…	8
They are intimidated by the looks of…	5
Not treated equally.	3
Stigmatization/ Marginalization.	9
Bullying.	9

Q4 How is this disadvantage linked to opportunities for study or employment?

Studies opportunities

Category	Value
	10
Yes, they may abandon school.	3
Yes, they make more effort trying to compensate their difficulties.	2

Employment opportunities

Category	Value
No	0
Yes, especially appearance related jobs	15

(Horizontal axis: 0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16)
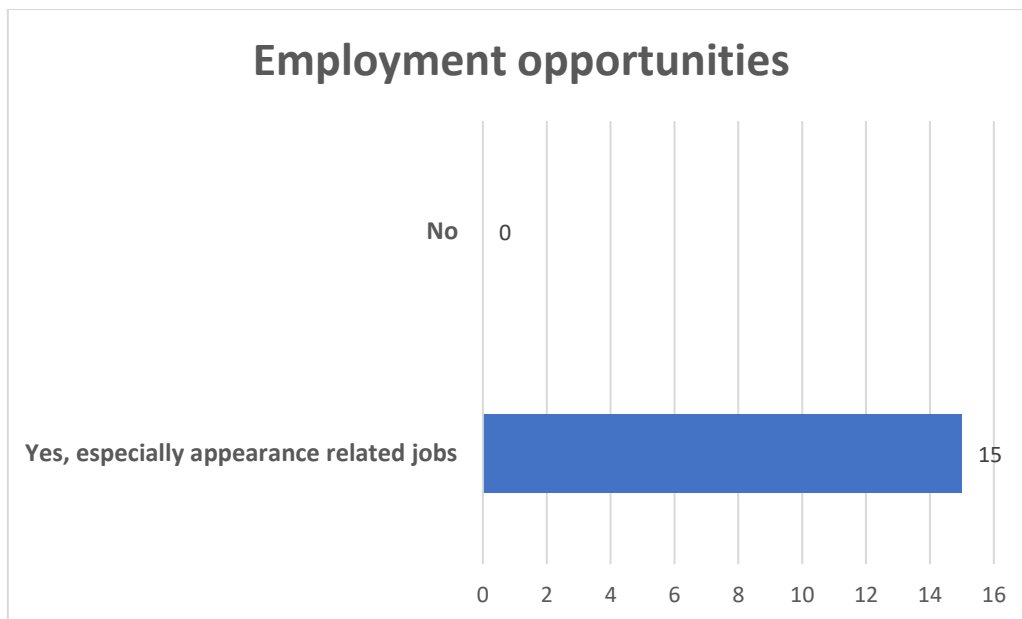
Q5 What are your recommendations to make this better?

Recommendations

Category	Value
Getting support from the family	2
Creating more opportunities for…	1
Ensuring support on all levels…	4
Study and job opportunities…	1
Courses, trainings for individuals…	6
Courses and trainings for specialists.	8
Awareness and information…	11

(Horizontal axis: 0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12)

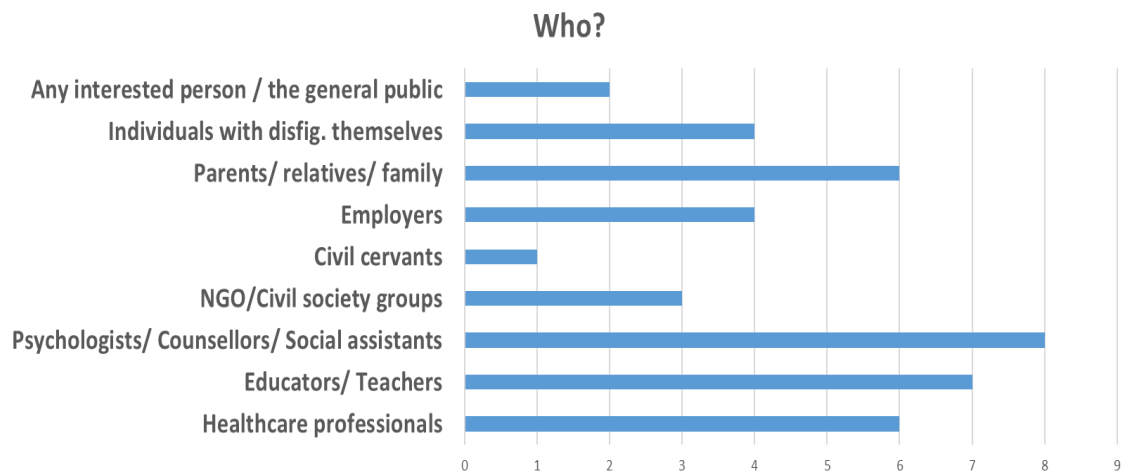**Q6 Would you be interested in undergoing training on how to improve the situation for individuals with disfigurements?**
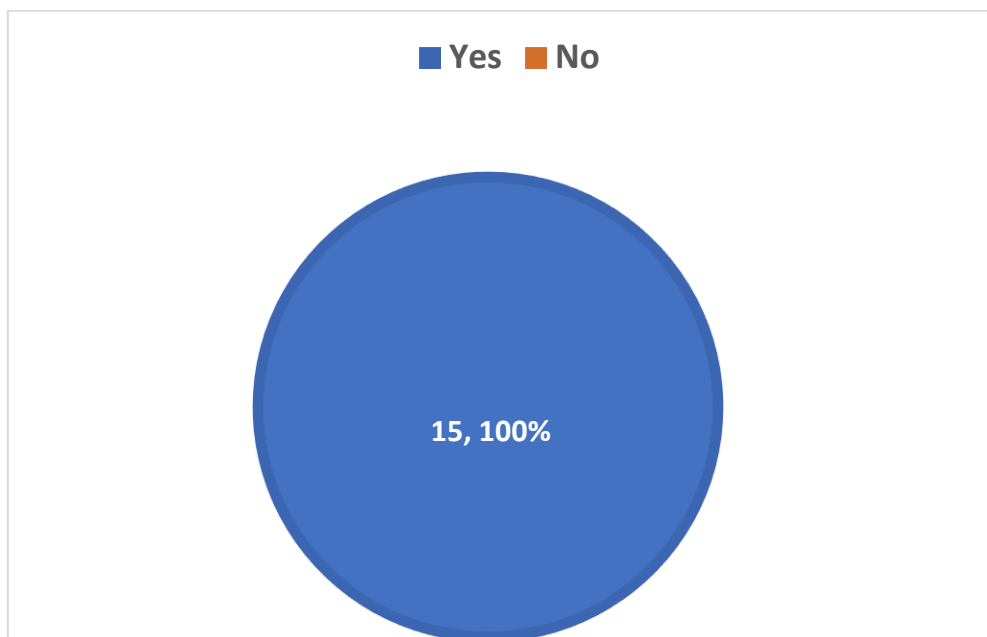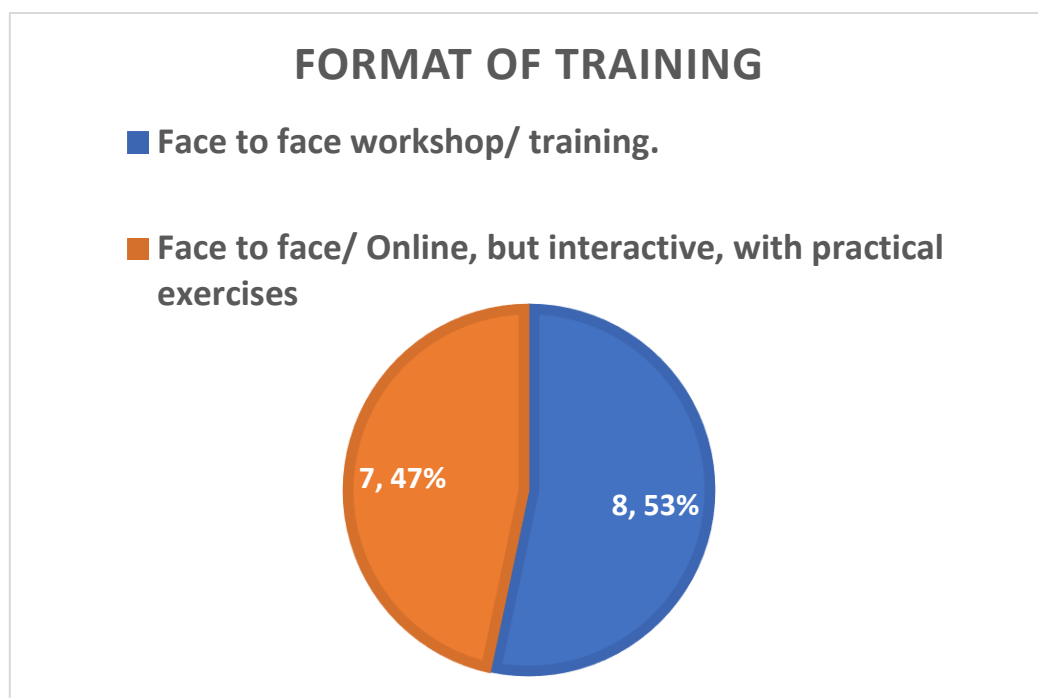

Q7 How do you think undertaking training in this area would benefit your work?
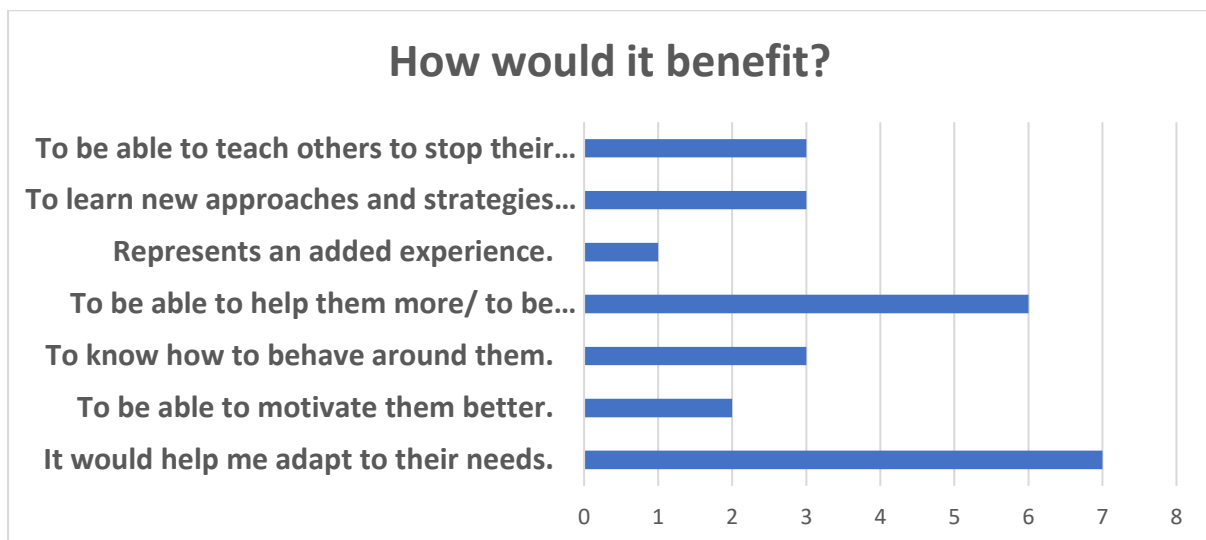
Q8 What other groups do you think this training would be useful for?

Who?

Group	Value
Any interested person / the general public	2
Individuals with disfig. themselves	4
Parents/ relatives/ family	6
Employers	4
Civil cervants	1
NGO/Civil society groups	3
Psychologists/ Counsellors/ Social assistants	8
Educators/ Teachers	7
Healthcare professionals	6

Q9 If you undertook such training, what format would you like it to be in?

FORMAT OF TRAINING

■ Face to face workshop/ training.

■ Face to face/ Online, but interactive, with practical exercises

7, 47%
8, 53%

Summary of the findings of the semi-structured interviews

- All participants believed that individuals with disfigurements are at a disadvantage. Most of them consider that bullying, stigmatization/ marginalization, low self-esteem and low-confidence, their difficulties in making personal relations and isolation are the most common disadvantages.

- Most of the participants agreed that there is no issue present when it comes to studies, some of them mentioned early abandonment of school; there is an issue when it comes to employment, especially when the setting is related to appearance.

- As recommendations to improve the situation, most of the respondents believed as most effective awareness and information campaigns at all levels, courses and trainings for specialists and courses, trainings for individuals with disfigurements themselves for raising their self-confidence, self-acceptance and helping to create relations.

- All participants agree that they would be interested in training in this area and it will develop their skills and knowledge in order to adapt to their needs, to be able to help them, but also to help their relatives and family, to learn new strategies and approaches to work with these persons, and to be able to teach others to stop their marginalization and be more empathic.

- There is a preference for this training to be conducted in a face-to-face format. However, even if it is in online format, it should be interactive, having practical and self-reflection exercises.

Recommendations for training based on these findings

- The training should be in a face to face format.
- It should be interactive, having practical and self-reflection exercises.